GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3296
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2008
LEATHER EXPORT
Nayak Shri Ananta

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Memorandum of Understanding(MoU) has been signed with other countries for the export of leather during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise;

(c) the details of target fixed and achievement made for leather exports during the above period and for the year 2008-09; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the export of leather?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)&(b) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed on 21st March 2008 between Government of Ethiopia and Government of India to support developmental activities in leather sector in their respective countries through technological and market collaboration. Besides,Council for Leather Exports (CLE) has also signed Memorandum of Understanding with Botswana Export development & Investment Authority during December 2006 and British footwear Association during August 2007.

(c) The details are as under:

Year	Export target (US$ million)	Actual achievement (US$ million)
2004-05	2284	2495.37
2005-06	2675	2752.50
2006-07	2943	2981.79
2007-08	3042	2485.58 (April to December 2007)

Latest available DGCI&S data
As regards 2008-09 no target as such has since been decided.

(d) Incentives to boost export of leather and leather products,inter-alia,include import of specified machinery for leather sector at concessional rate of 5% duty,duty free import of critical inputs to the extent of 3% of FOB value of previous year export and financial assistance under Market Access Initiative and Market Development Assistance schemes.Besides, this Department is implementing projects for upgradation of FDDI, Noida and its branch at Fursatganj at the cost of Rs. 15 crore and Rs. 83.16 crore respectively to address the design, testing and skilled manpower requirements of leather and footwear sector.